



## STAFFORD COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

# Adopt-A-Classroom Newsletter

[www.adoptaclassroom.com](http://www.adoptaclassroom.com)

Volume III, Issue 1

August 2006



### A Message from Wayne Carruthers, Department of Financial Services

Stafford County Public Schools is pleased to be in partnership with Adopt-A-Classroom for the third year. Adopt-a-Classroom is a national, 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that empowers teachers by teaming them with individuals and businesses who serve as community partners and who use their program to make direct and accountable financial donations to classrooms.

Educators please take the time to register with Adopt-A-Classroom. It only takes a few minutes and can result in rewards for the children in your classroom.

Completing the registration process does not guarantee adoption, but makes your class eligible for adoption. If adopted you receive a credit with which you can purchase resources to help enrich the learning environment of your classroom and maximize opportunity for student success.

Once your classroom is adopted, we strongly encourage you to communicate with your donor to build a strong and lasting partnership. Here are a few suggestions on ways to stay in touch with your donor:

1. Thanking them for the adoption.
2. Sharing your plans of how the supplies will be used in the classroom.
3. Inviting them to visit your classroom.
4. Asking your donor if there is any other information you can provide (pictures, letters, etc.).

These actions involve your partner in the teaching and learning process and may better your chances for continued support in the next school year.

Wishing you much success in the new school year,

Wayne C. Carruthers, CPA  
Assistant Superintendent  
Stafford County Public Schools

### Welcome Back SCPS Teachers!

Welcome to our new and returning teachers! As we begin the new school year, we enter our third year of participation in the Adopt-A-Classroom program. If you are a returning teacher who registered last year, you will be receiving an e-mail soon from Adopt-A-Classroom to update your registration. If you are a new teacher, please see the instructions below on how to register on-line. **Remember, you can't be adopted if you are not registered.**

#### ***New to Stafford County Public Schools? New to Adopt-A-Classroom? Follow the instructions below to register.***

1. Visit the website at [www.adoptaclassroom.com](http://www.adoptaclassroom.com)
2. Select "Teacher Registration" from the top of the page and complete the information.
3. Once you complete your registration, you will receive a confirmation email with instructions to confirm your registration.
4. Log on to the website often and use the tools Adopt-A-Classroom provides registered teachers to assist you in creating awareness for the program – look for pre-written emails and flyers to download.

#### ***Returning Teacher Instructions:***

1. Log onto the website at [www.adoptaclassroom.com](http://www.adoptaclassroom.com).
2. Use the same email address that you used last year.
3. You will be prompted to make the appropriate updates and/or changes.

If you are adopted, catalogs of your choice will be issued by mail or you can order on-line immediately.

Once all instructions are followed completely, the site creates a teacher's ordering desktop for a "one-time" order which can be made up from various vendors.

## News from Adopt-A-Classroom Founder and Executive Director, Jamie Rosenberg

At the completion of the 2005-2006 school year, Adopt-A-Classroom had raised \$1 million on behalf of classroom teachers and students. This amount brings our eight year total of money raised to \$4.25 million. With support from classroom sponsors and donors across the U.S., we have helped over 5,000 teachers improve the educational opportunities for over 300,000 students. Over 90% of the students we helped come from homes with household income below poverty.

As we look forward to the 2006-2007 school year, Adopt-A-Classroom has set a goal of raising \$500,000 towards a new operating fund to support the relaunch of our website which plays an integral role in registering teachers and welcoming classroom sponsors. One of the main purposes of the website relaunch is to improve how our community partners use the site to do outreach to schools and prospective classroom sponsors. To make a tax-deductible gift to our new operating fund, please send checks to AAC, 1521 Alton Road #78, Miami, FL 33139, or call our office at 877-444-7666 to donate by credit card.

On behalf of all of the children we have served, I would like to personally thank all the teachers and classroom sponsors who have participated in the program.

Have a great year!

Jamie Rosenberg  
Founder and Executive Director

### WEBSITE UPGRADES THIS FALL

Look for Adopt-A-Classroom's new website this fall. New features will include:

- ♦ tools for PTAs, school principals and other members of the community to launch their own localized Adopt-A-Classroom programs.
- ♦ more flexible donation options. Donors will be able to donate any amount to a classroom and more than one donor will be able to give to a single classroom.
- ♦ enhanced shopping for teachers.
- ♦ more outreach tools to "spread the word."

### ADOPT-A-CLASSROOM RAISES \$47,500 FOR TEACHERS IMPACTED BY HURRICANE KATRINA

As a result of the devastation caused by Hurricane Katrina, over 300,000 children were displaced and enrolled into new schools. In an appeal to donors to support teachers that faced new and unique challenges, Adopt-A-Classroom raised \$47,500 for 95 classrooms in Alabama, California, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Louisiana, Mississippi, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Texas, and Virginia.

## Mission Statement

Adopt-A-Classroom harnesses the resources of the community and the Internet to enrich the classroom experience and increase both teachers' and students' chances for success.

Adopt-A-Classroom is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that fosters community involvement in schools.

Teachers are spending an average of \$800 of their own money each year just to meet basic classrooms needs, going out of pocket despite being underpaid and underappreciated. Why? Because of their passion for providing their students with the best possible education.

**We recognize teachers as the single most important factor toward student success.** Teachers need our help -- both morally and financially, and we encourage you to take an active role in your community's schools by adopting an individual classroom.

Your tax-deductible contribution to a classroom enables you to make a direct, measurable impact upon our children's success, and ultimately, your community's future.

### INTERESTED IN ADOPTING, BUT NOT SURE HOW? DON'T FEEL YOU HAVE THE BUDGET? HERE ARE SOME OPTIONS:

- ✎ Two or more families/groups/departments can pool their money together.
- ✎ Gifts in memoriam or honorarium.
- ✎ Gifts from grandparents for their grandchild's whole classroom.

By adopting a classroom in Stafford County Public Schools, you help 25 students and their teacher. Through this partnership, the education of thousands of students will be enhanced.

Go on-line to [www.adoptaclassroom.com](http://www.adoptaclassroom.com), select "Read about Classrooms," then "Virginia," and then "Stafford" to the list of schools and pick a favorite teacher. Follow the directions to adopt online.

### Not comfortable adopting a classroom via the internet?

Please contact the Department of Financial Services at (540) 568-6596 and staff will mail a pledge card to you. The pledge card allows the adopter to name the classroom of their choice and mail their payment (check or credit card) directly to Adopt-a-Classroom. If you want to donate and don't know any teachers, just leave the "Specify School and/or Classroom" section blank and your contribution will be assigned to a deserving classroom.

